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AN ANNOTATED READING LIST

on the

WALDENSES

SELECTED BOOKS AND ARTICLES
IN ENGLISH



Prepared by
ANN AUGUSTA ESBENSHADE
Library of the Yale Divinity School
under the direction of
ROLAND H. BAINTON
Yale University

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THE AMERICAN WALDENSIAN AID SOCIETY
156 FIFTH AVENUE
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The Waldenses are the oldest surviving evangelical church group in the West. Their history is continuous from the last quarter of the twelfth century to the present day. Their missionary efforts at one time covered most of Europe. Their influence was strong in the Latin, Germanic, and some of the Slavic lands. A sympathetic attitude toward the Waldenses has long existed in Great Britain, the United States, France, Germany, Holland and Switzerland. The many books published in English in the first half of the nineteenth century provide ample evidence of the widespread interest at that time.

The Waldenses helped prepare for the Protestant Reformation by sending their missionaries and copies of the Bible, or of Bible portions, throughout Europe. They had definite connections with many pre-Reformation movements such as the Franciscan and the Hussite.

At the invitation of personal representatives of John Calvin a large number of Waldensian pastors and elders gathered at the synod of Cianforan, held in the valley of Angrogna in the Cottian Alps in the year 1532 and officially joined forces with the Protestant Reformation. From 1532 to 1535 they sheltered and financed Olivetan, one of the representatives of Calvin, while he translated the Bible into French; and then published it at their own expense in 1535 as a gift to the French-speaking world.

The Waldenses were granted their religious liberty on February 17, 1848. Since that time realizing that, in the words of their great friend General Beckwith, "They must be missionary or nothing" they have spread the Gospel throughout Italy and beyond. Today they have churches, mission stations and organized groups in their native Italy and five of their pastors are now at work in Italian East Africa. In addition they have churches in Uruguay and Argentina in South America.

In view of the antiquity, dissemination and importance of the movement an annotated bibliography should be useful to all students of history and culture. The American Waldensian Aid Society, realizing the magnitude and difficulty of this task, counts itself fortunate in having secured the cooperation of the Reverend Roland H. Bainton, Ph.D., Titus Street Professor of Ecclesiastical History in Yale University, and of Raymond P. Morris, B. S. in Library Science, Librarian of the Yale Divinity School. They asked Miss Ann Augusta Esbenshade of 409 Prospect Avenue, New Haven, a trained librarian on the Yale staff to undertake the work. She was given unhurried time for the compilation of a comprehensive bibliography on the Waldenses in all periods, lands and languages. She will be glad to receive information regarding books, articles and collections in this country and Europe. The present preliminary annotated list of selected material in English has been prepared for the use of all interested teachers, students and pastors. We are deeply grateful to Dr. Bainton, Mr. Morris and Miss Esbenshade for their generous and wholehearted help.

In securing information for this list and for the much fuller bibliography now being compiled, the following collections have already been consulted by either Miss Esbenshade or the undersigned: Columbia University, Hartford Seminary Foundation, Harvard University, the New York Public Library, Princeton Theological Seminary and Union Theological Seminary of New York City. Through the courtesy of Walter B. Briggs,

Ph. D., Acting Librarian of Harvard University, a thorough study was also made of the collection of the Harvard Divinity School. Likewise the Reverend Kenneth S. Gapp, Ph. D., Librarian of Princeton Theological Seminary, has made a study of the material in the library of Princeton University. The Faculty of the Waldensian Theological Seminary in Rome have been of great assistance in gathering material and supplying facts about the collections in Italy.

We hope that this preliminary reading list will not only be widely used, but will help to prepare the way for the comprehensive bibliography which is to come.

We also gratefully acknowledge the generous and constructive assistance of the Reverend Professor Robert Hastings Nichols, D. D., of Auburn Theological Seminary, the Reverend Professor Conrad Henry Moehlmann, D. D., of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, and the Reverend William W. Rockwell, Ph. D. D., Theol., Librarian of Union Theological Seminary.

Robert W. Anthony, General Secretary
American Waldensian Aid Society

February 1, 1939

The American Waldensian Aid Society was incorporated in May, 1906 under "An act relating to Membership Corporations" in the State of New York. Its objects as there stated are: "To collect funds and apply the same to the aid of the Waldensian Church in Italy, and elsewhere in its evangelistic, institutional and educational work, and to receive, hold and invest money and property, both real and personal (with power to sell, transfer and convey the same) and apply the net income thereof to the work aforesaid and to arouse and maintain interest throughout the United States in the work of said Church and otherwise to aid the said Waldensian Church."

The Society has its office in the Presbyterian Building, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City. It is glad to be of service to churches, ministers, church organizations and individuals who want information about the Waldenses and their work. Prospective visitors to Italy will be supplied with letters of introduction lists of the churches, pastors and philanthropic institutions of the Waldensian Church and other travel helps.

There are local branches of the Society in many North American cities. New branches will be welcomed and assisted in their organization and work. Literature, pictures and speakers will be supplied for meetings. Inquiries may be addressed to the General Secretary, American Waldensian Aid Society, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Gifts should be sent to the Treasurer of the Society at the above address.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to the American Waldensian Aid Society, a corporation organized and existing under the Laws of the State of New York, the sum of \$-----

AN ANNOTATED READING LIST

on the

WALDENSES

1. ENCYCLOPEDIAS

1. Catholic encyclopedia... N.Y. Robert Appleton co. 1912.
Waldenses. Detailed historical article with special emphasis on doctrine. Brings Waldensian history down to the present day. Signed by N. A. Weber.
2. Encyclopedia Britannica, 14th ed. London, Encyclopedia Brit. co. ltd. N.Y. Encyclopedia Brit. inc. 1929.
Waldenses. General historical article, showing relationship with other sects of the Middle Ages, the Inquisition, and the Reformation. Unsigned.
3. Hastings, James, ed.
Encyclopedia of religion and ethics... N.Y. Chas. Scribner's Sons; Edinburgh, T. and T. Clark, 1922.
Waldenses. A historical discussion of the Waldenses, with much emphasis on origins. Divided into 5 chronological sections, -- 1. Origin; 2. Mediaeval period; 3. Reformation period; 4. Period of great persecutions (1540-1690); 5. Later history. Signed by W.F. Adeney.
4. Schaff-Herzog encyclopedia
New Schaff-Herzog encyclopedia of religious knowledge... N.Y. and London, Funk and Wagnalls Co. 1912.
Waldenses. Extremely full historical account of the Waldenses, containing their origins, their development in various countries, organization and doctrines, persecutions, their fusion with the Protestant church, their literature, and present conditions. Extremely full bibliography. Signed by Alberto Clot.

II. SOURCE MATERIAL

1. Chaytor, Henry John, ed.
Six Vaudois poems from the Waldensian mss. in the University libraries of Cambridge, Dublin, and Geneva Cambridge, University press, 1930.
Originals and translations of Vaudois poems brought to England by Samuel Morland whom Cromwell sent as envoy to the Duke of Savoy to protest against the persecution of the Vaudois Protestants. Subjects: The bark, The new sermon, The new comfort, The eternal father, The scorn of the world, The gospel of the four seeds.
2. Gilly, W.S.
Romaunt version of the Gospel according to St. John from MSS...with an introd. hist. of the version of the New Testament, anciently in use among the Old Waldenses... London, John Murray, 1848.
The introduction of more than 100 pages treats of the history of the Romaunt version of the New Testament, the one used by the Waldensians, discussing each ms. separately.
3. Hill, Richard
The diplomatic correspondence of the Rt. Hon. Richard Hill...envoy extraordinary from the Court of St. James to the Duke of Savoy...from July, 1703, to May, 1706; supplementary to the history of Europe...of the rights and liberties of the Vaudois, guaranteed by England...ed. by the Rev. W. Blackley. London, John Murray, 1845. 2v.
"His letters, detailing the success of his negotiations in behalf of the Vaudois, cannot but be read with peculiar interest at this crisis; when the rights and liberties of the Vaudois are again in jeopardy, and when motions in Parliament, memorials to Secretaries of State, and efforts of Committees, are employed to draw attention to the Treaties on which the security of the Waldensian Church depends. The Secret Article of that particular Treaty, on which hinges the whole question of England's right to interpose in behalf of the Vaudois, and all the nice points connected with it,—the price in money which was paid for it, — the difficulties which Mr. Hill had to encounter before he could get it irrevocably signed, and sealed, -- the clauses on which he insisted

with the pertinacity of a Statesman, who foresaw that the treaty would be evaded if a loophole should be left, and was resolved to meet the shifts and doubles to which Victor Amadée had recourse to escape from the obligations of a compact, bought with English gold, and ratified by stipulations with the Emperor of Germany;-- these form a remarkable feature in this valuable documentary collection."

Preface.

4. Schaff, Philip

The creeds of Christendom, 3d ed. rev. and enl. N.Y. Harper & Bros. [1877] 3v.

v.3, p.757-770. The Confession of the Waldenses, A.D. 1655. This confession was prepared and issued in consequence of a particularly barbarous persecution suffered by the Waldenses, which roused the sympathies of Oliver Cromwell and led to the relief of the Waldenses by the English. The French and the English translation are given in parallel columns.

5. Stouppe, J.B., ed.

A collection of the several papers sent to his Highness the Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, etc., concerning the bloody and barbarous massacres, murders and other cruelties committed on many thousands of reformed or Protestants dwelling in the valleys of Piedmont, by the Duke of Savoy's forces, joyned therein with the French army, and several Irish regiments. London, Printed for H. Robinson at the Three Pigeons in St. Paul's churchyard, 1655.

They claim a very early origin for the Waldenses.

III. WALDENSIAN HISTORIES--(PRE-CRITICAL PERIOD)

1. Allix, Peter

Some remarks upon the ecclesiastical history of the ancient churches of Piedmont... London, Printed for Richard Chiswell at the Rose and Crown in St. Paul's church-yard, [1690.]

He identifies the Paterines and Waldenses, and goes to great lengths to prove that the Waldenses did not derive their doctrines and name from Peter Waldo, but from the word for valleys, and that they were known to be in existence from 1100, whereas Peter Waldo, at the earliest, became known in 1160. Discusses, among other things, the relation of the Waldenses with the church of Rome, the conduct of the Waldenses in Bohemia, their persecutions, and the government of their churches.

2. Arnaud, Henri

The glorious recovery by the Vaudois of their valleys, from the original by Henri Arnaud, their commander and pastor, with a compendious history of that people, previous and subsequent to that event, by Hugh Dyke Acland. London, John Murray, [1827.]

Contains a map of the Protestant valleys of Piedmont. Calls the "fable" that the Waldenses originated with Waldo, absurd. The main body of the work is taken up with an account of the reentry of the Waldenses into their valleys in the latter part of the 17th century (1687), after they had been dispossessed by the Duke of Savoy. There are, however, sections before and after the main work, treating of the previous and later history of the Waldenses.

3. Bracebridge, C.H.

Authentic details of the Valdenses in Piedmont and other countries... London, John Hatchard and Son, 1827.

Contains a short history of the Waldensians up to 1825, letters written during a visit to Piedmont and Wirtemberg by an Englishman to his family, an abridged translation of the History of the Vaudois by J. Bresse, the ancient catechism of the Waldenses, a sketch of the life of Henri Arnaud, an abridged translation of "La Rentrée glorieuse..." by Henri Arnaud, and a sketch of the German Valdenses.

4. Faber, George Stanley

An inquiry into the history and theology of the ancient Vallenses and Albigenses: as exhibiting agreeably to the promises, the perpetuity of the sincere church of Christ. London, R.B. Seeley and W. Burnside, 1838.

Book III, p.271-496, the Vallenses. Much discussion concerning their origin and antiquity, and full discussion of their theology.

Book IV, p.497-596, Supplemental matter, including an account of the junction of the Albigenses and Vallenses, and the errors of both churches.

5. Gilly, William Stephen

Narrative of an excursion to the mountains of Piedmont in the year 1823 and researches among the Vaudois, or Waldenses...with an appendix, containing copies of ancient manuscripts, and other interesting documents...3d ed. London, C. and J. Rivington, 1826.

His purpose is "to make the singular community, which forms the leading subject of this volume, more known to the world than it has lately been". He thinks that the narrative form will catch the attention of more readers than a work "professedly ecclesiastical". Contains maps and facsimiles of mss.

6. Gilly, William Stephen

Waldensian researches during a second visit to the Vaudois of Piedmont with an introductory inquiry into the antiquity and purity of the Waldensian church. London, C.J.G.F. Rivington, 1831.

A companion volume to the "Narrative of an excursion" by the same author. He is still intent on catching the attention of the greatest number of readers possible. These two volumes are not a regular history of the Waldenses, but more or less a "sugar-coated pill".

7. Henderson, Ebenezer

The Vaudois; comprising observations made during a tour to the valleys of Piedmont in the summer of 1844 together with remarks, introductory and interspersed, respecting the origin, history and present condition of that interesting people... London, John Snow, 1845.

Contains map of the valleys of Piedmont. Distinguishes the Vaudois from the Waldenses, who, he says, have ceased to exist long before. An account of a summer tour through the Piedmont valleys, made by the author to find out the circumstances of the Vaudois in order to petition the English Queen and clergy on their behalf. Appendix contains the Vaudois confession of faith, and a letter from Oliver Cromwell to the Evangelical cantons of Switzerland, dated 1658.

8. Jones, William

History of the Waldenses; connected with a sketch of the Christian Church from the birth of Christ to the eighteenth century. London, Printed for the author by J. Haddon, Tabernacle Walk, sold at No. 7, Lovell's Court by W. Button and T. Hamilton, Paternoster Row; Guthrie and Tait, Edinburgh, J. and A. Duncan, Glasgow, 1812.

The first half of the book deals with the history of the Christian church up to the time of the Waldenses. Chapters 5 and 6 deal with the history of the Waldenses from the time of Peter Waldo, A. D. 1160, to the close of the 17th century.

9. Monastier, Antoine

A history of the Vaudois church from its origin and of the Vaudois of Piedmont to the present day...translated from the French... N.Y. Lane and Scott, 1849.

He denies the Peter Waldo story of the origin of the Waldensians, and claims a very early origin. His intention is to prove that there has been an uninterrupted perpetuity of the primitive church, represented by the church of the Vaudois valleys, as well as by all her sister evangelical churches.

10. Muston, Alexis

The Israel of the Alps: a history of the persecutions of the Waldenses. Translated from the French of...Alexis Muston by William Hazlitt... London, Ingram, Cooke and Co., 1852.

Detailed history of the various groups of Waldensians, the influence of the Reformation in the Vaudois valleys, their persecutions and struggles, the glorious return under Arnaud, and their later history down to the latter half of the 19th century. Appendix contains the confession of faith and ancient catechism of the Vaudois.

11. Perrin, John Paul

The history of the old Waldenses and Albigenses, those two glorious witnesses to the truth of Christianity in opposition to the antichristianism of Rome in the several ages preceding the Reformation. In 5 books. London, Joseph Downing, 1711. (Forms Part 2 of Bray, Thomas, ed. Papal usurpation and persecution...1712)

Contains the history of the Waldenses together with a detailed account of their persecutions. Also the confession of the Waldenses (date 1120) and catechism, doctrines and discipline.

IV. WALDENSIAN HISTORIES--(CRITICAL PERIOD)

1. Bompiani, Sophia V.

A short history of the Italian Waldenses who have inhabited the valleys of the Cottian Alps from ancient times to the present. N.Y. A.S. Barnes, London, Hodder and Stoughton, 1897.

A history of the Italian Waldenses to the year 1889, -- the bi-centennial of the "Glorious Return". Denies that Peter Waldo was their founder. "The origin of the Waldenses is lost in the night of centuries".

2. Comba, Emilio

History of the Waldenses of Italy, from their origin to the Reformation... translated from the author's revised edition by Teofilo E. Comba. London, Truslove and Shirley, 1889

A good general history of the Waldenses including their origin, persecutions, literature, organization and doctrines.

3. Comba, Emilio

Waldo and the Waldensians before the Reformation...translated by Teofilo E. Comba... N.Y. Robert Carter and Bros., Dodd Mead and Co., 1880. (Bound with Biographical pamphlets, v.34 -- pamphlet No. 14)

The history and doctrines of the Waldensians beginning with Peter Waldo and ending with the Reformation.

4. Gay, Teofilo

The Waldenses, their rise, struggles, persecutions and triumphs. London, Blackwood and Co., 1895.

5. Melia, Pius, ed. and comp.

The origin, persecutions and doctrines of the Waldenses from documents, many now the first time collected and edited, by Pius Melia. London, James Toovey, 1870.

Divided into three parts, -- origin, persecutions and doctrines of the Waldenses. Quotations from documents, edited and arranged chronologically. The editor comes to the conclusions that they had their origin in the latter half of the 12th century, that their persecutions resulted from their transgressing the laws of the country and the barbarities of 1655 against them are mere inventions, and that their religious opinions are not the doctrines taught by the Lord or his disciples.

6. Rostan, F.

The Waldensian church and her work of evangelization in Italy. Torre Pellice, Tipografia Alpina, 1894.

7. Van Dyke, Tertius

Faithful witness of the Waldensians... 2d ed. rev. N.Y. American Waldensian Aid Society, n.d.

A pamphlet briefly reviewing the significant dates in the history of the Waldensians, and picturing their present status.

V. GENERAL HISTORIES (containing some Waldensian material)

1. Brown, G.K.

Italy and the Reformation to 1550... Oxford, Basil Blackwell, 1933.

Vaudois history is woven into the history of Italy and references appear throughout the book. Consult the index under Vaudois and Waldo. It would be profitable to read the entire volume. Do not be confused by Valdesians, which refers to a movement originating in Spain

2. Davison, Ellen Scott

Forerunners of St. Francis... Boston and N.Y., Houghton Mifflin Co. 1927.

Chapter VII, the Waldensians. A clear, concise, and well-documented account of the Waldensians, their origins, early history, organization and doctrines, and connection with St. Francis of Assisi.

3. Gebhart, E.

Mystics and heretics in Italy at the end of the Middle Ages, translated by E.M. Hulme. London, Allen and Unwin 1922.

The Waldensian heresy described, as it entered into the picture of the religious and moral conditions in Italy in the latter half of the 12th century.

4. Hirst, M.E.
Quakers in peace and war... London, Swarthmore Press, Ltd. N.Y. G.H. Doran Co. 1923.
In the introduction the Waldenses are mentioned, just insofar as their teachings and doctrines fit into the picture of the non-resistance of the Christian churches.
5. Jones, Rufus Matthew
Studies in mystical religion. London, Macmillan and Co., Ltd. 1909.
Chapter 8, the Waldenses, an anti-sacerdotal sect. The origins and history of the Waldensians, with stress laid on their organization and doctrines.
6. Jones, William
The history of the Christian church...including the...account of the Waldenses and Albigenses... 2v. in 1; 3d American from the 5th London edition. Philadelphia, Published by R.W. Pomeroy; sold by Hogan and Thompson, 1832.
Chapter V begins an account of the history of the Waldenses and Albigenses, which continues for the remainder of the volume. It begins with the time of Peter Waldo (1160 A.D.) and continues up to 1700 A.D.
7. Kurtz, John Henry
Text-book of church history... Philadelphia, Lindsay and Blakiston, 1871. 2v.
Consult index in each volume for Waldenses. V.1, p.458ff. A discussion of the origins and doctrines of the Waldenses. The three stages of their development are, 1. Before their separation from the church; 2. After their expulsion by the Catholics; 3. Period of influence by Huss, Zwingli and Calvin.
V.2, p.345ff. The part played by the Waldenses in the evangelization of Italy in the 19th century.
8. Lea, H.C.
History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages. N.Y. Macmillan, London, Macmillan, 1908-1911. 3v.
Consult the index in v.3 under Waldenses, Waldensianism, and Waldo. The history of the Waldenses and Waldensianism, with emphasis, of course, on the persecutions they endured. There is much excellent material here if one takes the trouble to piece it together.
9. Pennington, Arthur Robert
Church in Italy. London, Wells Gardner, Darton and Co. 1893.
Consult the index for material on Waldenses. The origins and history down to the 19th century.
10. Schaff, Philip
History of the Christian church... N.Y. Scribner, 1882-1924. 7v. in 8.
V.5, pt.1, consult the index under Waldenses. A historical sketch of the Waldensians as one of the heretical sects of the Middle Ages. Peter Waldus is accepted as their originator. The discussion includes not only the history, but also the principles and the literature of the Waldensians.
V.5, pt.2, consult the index under Waldenses. An account of the persecutions of the Waldensians under the pontificate of Innocent VIII in the latter part of the 15th century.
V.7, consult the index under Waldenses. Scattered references to their relations with the reformed churches, and Calvin's efforts on their behalf.

VI. BIOGRAPHY

1. Comba, Emilio
Peter Waldo; translated by Rev. L. Barrett White, D.D., in new biographical series, no. 74. London, Royal Tract Society, n.d.
2. Meille, Jean Pierre
General Beckwith: his life and labours among the Waldenses of Piedmont. London, T. Nelson and Sons, 1873.
The life of John Charles Beckwith, whose career as an English soldier having been cut short, devoted his life to improving the conditions of the Waldenses of Italy, took a wife from among them, died there, and is buried in Torre Pellice. Told with affection by Rev. Meille, pastor of the Waldensian church at Turin.

VII. FICTION

1. Gunsaulus, Frank Wakeley
Monk and Knight; an historical study in fiction... Chicago, A.C. McClurg and Co., 1891. 2v.
A Waldensian romance laid in the first half of the 16th century in northern Italy. Excellent for atmosphere and details as well as broad historical outlines.
2. Hale, Edward Everett
...In His name; a Christmas story... 2d ed. Boston, Proprietors of Old and New, 1874.
A story of the time of Peter Waldo. The daughter of Jean Waldo, kinsman of Peter, is the heroine. An excellent portrayal of the spirit of the early Waldensians.

VIII. PERIODICAL ARTICLES

1. Atlantic monthly, v.44, no. 265, Nov. 1879, p.643-8
Waring, George Edwin, Jr. The Waldenses of to-day.
A contemporary (1879) account of a visit to the Vaudois valleys, presenting details of everyday life, preceded by a concise account of Waldensian history.
2. American Journal of Theology, v.4, no.3, July, 1906, p.465-489.
Vedder, Henry C. Origin and early teachings of the Waldenses, according to Roman Catholic writers of the 13th century.
By quotations from early Catholic documents and letters, the author builds up a picture of early Waldensianism.
3. Christian Century, v. 46, p.511-513, April 17, 1929, and v.46, p.812, June 19, 1929
Protestant strategy in Italy.
A reply by D.G. Whittinghill.
An article based on the premise that it is better missionary practice to support an indigenous church than to try to force a system entirely foreign upon the people to be evangelized. He thinks American missions to Italy should make use of the Waldensian church.
The reply, by D.G. Whittinghill, Superintendent of the American Baptist mission in Italy, expresses surprise at the former article. Mr. Whittinghill takes up the cudgels in behalf of the Baptist church in Italy and denies that it is dominated by foreigners, he himself being the only foreigner on the committee of 6.
4. English Historical Review, v.48, p.23-42, January 1933.
Thomson, S.H. Pre-Hussite heresy in Bohemia.
A very well-documented article showing the Waldensian heresy in Bohemia as laying the foundation for Huss.
5. Homiletic Review, v. 106, p.100-102, August, 1933.
Harvey-Jellie, W. Protestant churches of Italy.
An article reviewing cursorily the past history of the Waldensians and showing the part the Waldensian church played in the religious rehabilitation of the Italian people after the World War, and the reciprocal increase of vitality in the Waldensian movement today.
6. Independent, v.50, p.219, February, 1898.
Chambers, Frank. The Waldenses in the United States.
An account of the three pioneer bands of Waldenses who came to America in 1894, later joining and all settling in North Carolina. Useful for the description of the physical appearance, characteristics, industry, etc., of the Waldensians.
7. Review of Reviews, v.79, p.138, April, 1929.
Italy's evangelical Waldensians.
Brief article explaining the present-day dissemination of the Waldensians.
8. Time, v.30, p.59, December 6, 1937.
Waldenses.
Short article showing Il Duce's relations with the Waldensians.

